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## FCC Issues 2009 Form 499A; Filing Due April 1, 2009

The FCC has released its 2009 FCC Form 499A, available at <http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form499-A/499a-2009.pdf>. All telecommunications carriers and interconnected VoIP providers (subject to extremely limited exceptions) must file this form with the Universal Service Administrative Company. In this form, carriers and interconnected VoIP providers will report their actual wholesale and end user revenues for the 2008 calendar year, and USAC then compares those revenues with the projected revenues submitted on the quarterly filings throughout the past year. USAC then will true-up or down, as appropriate, the carrier's contribution.

The 2009 Form 499A is slightly different from the 2008 Form 499A. Among other changes/additions, in the 2009 Form 499A, the FCC confirmed that audio bridging services are telecommunications, and, therefore, audio bridge providers must complete the form and contribute to the universal service fund. The FCC included instructions for audio bridge providers on page 18 of its form. The FCC also clarified that international settlement and settlement-like receipts for foreign-billed service should not be included in U.S. telecommunications revenues.

There are substantial penalties for failing to file the Form 499A and for filing late.

Please contact Jennifer Kashatus ([jkashatus@wcsr.com](mailto:jkashatus@wcsr.com)), Katherine Marshall ([kamarshall@wcsr.com](mailto:kamarshall@wcsr.com)), or your regular Womble Carlyle attorney if you have any questions regarding completing this form.

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